EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. David Victor on 3/14/06.

The application has been amended as follows:

1.   (Currently Amended) A method for interfacing with a printer driver, comprising:

receiving data transmitted from the printer driver;

receiving an acknowledgment request from the printer driver, wherein the printer driver does not send further data to print until receiving an acknowledgment reply indicating that the transmitted data passed an initial check;

transmitting an acknowledgment reply to the printer driver in an asynchronous processing mode in response to the acknowledgment request before completing the initial check of the sent data to cause the printer driver to send further data;

resynchronizing data processing operations in response to detecting an error in the received data by beginning a synchronous processing mode in which the acknowledgment reply is sent to the printer driver in response to the acknowledgment request after completing the initial check of the resent data; and

rasterizing and outputting the data.

7.   (Currently Amended) ~~The method of claim 1, wherein resynchronizing data processing operations in response to detecting the error further comprises:~~ A method for interfacing with a printer driver, comprising:

receiving data transmitted from the printer driver;

receiving an acknowledgment request from the printer driver, wherein the printer driver does not send further data to print until receiving an acknowledgment reply indicating that the transmitted data passed an initial check;

transmitting an acknowledgment reply to the printer driver in response to the acknowledgment request before completing the initial check of the sent data to cause the printer driver to send further data;

detecting an error while processing the received data;

transmitting a negative acknowledgment indicating an error that causes the printer driver to resend previously transmitted data that did not output successfully; and

wherein after transmitting the negative acknowledgment, performing:

(i) receiving data and one acknowledgment request;

(ii) performing the initial check of the received data;

(iii) determining whether the received data is resent data; and

(iv) if the received data is resent data, then transmitting an acknowledgment reply to the printer driver in response to the acknowledgment request after completing the initial check of the resent data; and

rasterizing and outputting the data.

10.   (Canceled)

11.   (Currently Amendment) A system for interfacing with a printer driver, comprising:

means for receiving data transmitted from the printer driver;

means for receiving an acknowledgment request from the printer driver, wherein the printer driver does not send further data to print until receiving an acknowledgment reply indicating that the transmitted data passed an initial check;

means for transmitting an acknowledgment reply to the printer driver in an asynchronous processing mode in response to the acknowledgment request before completing the initial check of the sent data to cause the printer driver to send further data;

means for resynchronizing data processing operations in response to detecting an error in the received data by beginning a synchronous processing mode in which the acknowledgment

reply is sent to the printer driver in response to the acknowledgment request after completing the initial check of the resent data; and

means for rasterizing and outputting the data.

17.   (Currently Amended) ~~The system of claim 11, wherein the means for resynchronizing data processing operations in response to detecting the error further comprises:~~ A system for interfacing with a printer driver, comprising:

means for receiving data transmitted from the printer driver;

means for receiving an acknowledgment request from the printer driver, wherein the printer driver does not send further data to print until receiving an acknowledgment reply indicating that the transmitted data passed an initial check;

means for transmitting an acknowledgment reply to the printer driver in response to the acknowledgment request before completing the initial check of the sent data to cause the printer driver to send further data;

[[(i)]] means for detecting an error while processing the received data;

[[(ii)]] means for transmitting a negative acknowledgment indicating an error that causes the printer driver to resend previously transmitted data that did not output successfully; and

means for performing, after transmitting the negative acknowledgment:

(i) receiving data and one acknowledgment request;

(ii) performing the initial check of the received data;

(iii) determining whether the received data is resent data; and

(iv) if the received data is resent data, then transmitting an acknowledgment reply to the printer driver in response to the acknowledgment request after completing the initial check of the resent data; and

means for rasterizing and outputting the data.

20.   (Canceled)

21.   (CurrentlyAmended) An article of manufacture for interfacing with a printer driver,
wherein the article of manufacture comprises code implemented in a computer readable medium
to cause a processor to perform:

     receiving data transmitted from the printer driver;

     receiving an acknowledgment request from the printer driver, wherein the printer driver
does not send further data to print until receiving an acknowledgment reply indicating that the
transmitted data passed an initial check;

     transmitting an acknowledgment reply to the printer driver in an asynchronous processing
mode in response to the acknowledgment request before completing the initial check of the sent
data to cause the printer driver to send further data;

     resynchronizing data processing operations in response to detecting an error in the
received data by beginning a synchronous processing mode in which the acknowledgment reply
is sent to the printer driver in response to the acknowledgment request after completing the initial
check of the resent data; and

     rasterizing and outputting the data.

27.   (Currently Amendment) ~~The article of manufacture of claim 21, wherein resynchronizing
data processing operations in response to detecting the error further comprises:~~ An article of
manufacture for interfacing with a printer driver, wherein the article of manufacture comprises
code implemented in a computer readable medium to cause a processor to perform:

     receiving data transmitted from the printer driver;

     receiving an acknowledgment request from the printer driver, wherein the printer driver
does not send further data to print until receiving an acknowledgment reply indicating that the
transmitted data passed an initial check;

     transmitting an acknowledgment reply to the printer driver in response to the
acknowledgment request before completing the initial check of the sent data to cause the printer
driver to send further data;

     detecting an error while processing the received data;

     transmitting a negative acknowledgment indicating an error that causes the printer driver
to resend previously transmitted data that did not output successfully; and

wherein after transmitting the negative acknowledgment the code is further capable of causing the processor to perform:

        (i) receiving data and one acknowledgment request;

        (ii) performing the initial check of the received data;

        (iii) determining whether the received data is resent data; and

        (iv) if the received data is resent data, then transmitting an acknowledgment reply to the printer driver in response to the acknowledgment request after completing the initial check of the resent data; and

rasterizing and outputting the data.

30.   (Canceled)